



WESTCHESTER JOINT WATER WORKS

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Westchester Joint Water Works Urges Customers to Properly Winterize Their Lawn Irrigation Systems And Backflow Devices

Mamaroneck, NY (November 18, 2011) –The Westchester Joint Water Works (WJWW) is again reminding its residential and commercial customers that have lawn irrigation systems to have them inspected and winterized in order to avoid possible costly leaks and potentially hazardous backflow of pollutants into the public water supply.

WJWW advises homeowners, office complexes and various institutional properties with lawn irrigation systems to use qualified contractors to winterize their irrigation systems for the upcoming cold winter months by: removing and blowing out all of the water from the system including pipes and sprinkler heads, completely shutting off the water supply to the system, insulating/wrapping hose bibs and valves to protect them from freezing and inspecting and winterizing the backflow prevention device which is required on all irrigation systems under County and State Health Department regulations-these devices are needed to prevent the backflow of contaminants into the public water supply system which could pose a potential health risk to the public.

In the spring, owners of lawn irrigation systems are also urged to have their systems, including the backflow devices, tested for breaks which may have occurred over the winter. Such breaks, if not identified, could result in costly excessive water loss during the irrigation season. WJWW also reminds customers that have irrigation systems, that it is best to have the system inspected on a regular basis by qualified/certified contractors for problems such as: broken/cracked lines, clogged sprinkler heads, leaking sprinkler heads and valves, obstructed sprinkler heads, missing nozzles, worn or damaged seals, and damage caused by lawn mowing, lawn maintenance, or cars driving over part of the irrigation system. In the near future whenever extreme cold weather is predicted, WJWW will be issuing reminders for all customers to protect or insulate pipes in their homes to keep them from freezing and then breaking resulting in indoor flooding and severe damage.

For more information visit www.wjww.com